

Application No. 10/660,461
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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:

providing a substantially planar healing membrane, which is:

- (a) substantially-smooth on at least one side;
- (b) substantially uniform in composition;
- (c) about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;
- (d) non-porous;
- (e) constructed from a resorbable polymer base material selected from the group consisting essentially of one or more of (a) a poly-lactide polymer and, (b) a copolymer of two or more different lactides, and (c) a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of lactides; and
- (f) adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body;; and

placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein:

the resorbable polymer base material ~~comprises~~ is a poly-lactide polymer and a copolymer of lactides; and

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the poly-lactide polymer and copolymer of lactides is 70:30 poly (L-lactide-co-D,L-lactide).

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein:
the resorbable polymer base material ~~comprises~~ is a poly-lactide polymer; and
the poly-lactide polymer is poly-L-lactide.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thickness of the membrane is about 100 microns.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thickness of the membrane is about 200 microns.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the healing membrane is provided in a sterile packaging.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of placing the healing membrane in a patient is effective to attenuate formation of scar tissue.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of placing the healing membrane in a patient is effective to attenuate tissue adhesion.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of attaching the healing membrane to the pericardial tissue.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the attaching step comprises heat bonding the membrane to the pericardial tissue.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the membrane comprises an anti-scar forming agent, including angiotensin antagonists.

12-20. Cancelled.

21. (Cancelled) ~~A method for promoting healing of damaged tissue after an open heart surgery, the method comprising:~~

~~providing a substantially planar healing membrane which is:~~

~~(a) — substantially smooth on at least one side;~~

~~(b) — substantially uniform in composition;~~

~~(c) — about 10 microns to about 300 microns in thickness;~~

~~(d) — non porous;~~

~~(e) — constructed from a resorbable polymer base material consisting essentially of a poly lactide polymer and a copolymer of one or more of polycaprolactone and trimethylene carbonate to thereby reduce a stiffness of the substantially planar healing membrane; and~~

~~(f) — adapted to be resorbed into the mammalian body within a period of approximately 18 to 24 months from an initial implantation of the membrane into the mammalian body; and~~

~~placing the healing membrane adjacent to an opening in pericardial tissue of a patient so that the pericardial tissue surrounding the opening can regenerate over the membrane.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the healing membrane is precontoured into a heart-shaped bag and is placed the placing comprises placing the healing membrane to surround the apex of a heart.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the healing membrane is precontoured into a tube and is disposed the placing comprises placing the healing membrane around the conduit of a left-ventricular assist device (LVAD).

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24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the healing membrane is precontoured and ~~is disposed~~ the placing comprises placing the healing membrane over a pump of a left-ventricular assist device (LVAD).